

12/8/94

**Note to:** Mike Vandenburg  
**From:** Jim Makris *Waine Davis for*  
**Subject:** Update on Komi, Russia Oil Spill Response

Status of US Technical Assistance

- The US has been requested by the UN Dept. of Humanitarian Affairs to provide two technical experts to a multi-national assessment team to travel to Moscow and the Komi Region to help assess the spill and provide recommendations to the Russians on techniques to employ over the Winter and in the Spring to mitigate the damage.
- CEPPPO has been actively working out details/logistics for participation of US Team members Royal Nadeau (EPA/OSWER/ERT) and Ray Kreig (Pipeline consultant from Anchorage), who was selected by the OVP. Leon Fuerth (OVP) has been the point person with Dept/Agency reps on this issue.
- Other Team members are from the UN (2) for leadership/administration and additional technical experts from Canada (2), Norway (2) and the European Union (2).
- Tentative itinerary:
  - 6 Dec.- Nadeau & Kreig in DC for briefings and "paperwork"
  - 7 Dec.- Depart DC to Moscow
  - 8 Dec.- UN/DHA led team rendezvous in Moscow
  - 9-11 Dec.- UN team hold various technical briefings/meetings in Moscow with Russia experts who have been at site
  - 12-13 Dec.- UN team on site in Komi Republic
  - 14 Dec.- UN team debrief in Moscow with Russian officials
  - 15 Dec.- US team members debrief with US Embassy officials
  - 18 Dec.- Depart Moscow for DC
  - 19 Dec.- Brief appropriate persons in DC and return home.

OEOB Meeting

- Gary Waxmonsky (OIA) & Ken Stroeck (OSWER) represented EPA at a 2 December meeting on the Komi Oil Spill. This was the 4th or 5th meeting relative to the spill over the last month. Representatives included Chair, Leon Fuerth and Marc Thomas (OVP), and persons from DOE, DOS, AID, Commerce and a representative for EXIM an organization which works with bank loan guarantees.

- Fuerth wants a strategy to tie together the various endeavors on providing money (from oil companies acting alone, or consortiums of oil companies, or various loans) to Russia for repairing/replacing the pipeline and/or for oil spill clean-up work, in preparation for the Gore/Chernomydrin discussions on Dec. 14-15. Ken briefed the group on status of the UN/DHA team preparations. An action received by EPA was to hold US team members in Moscow after Komi site visit long enough to brief appropriate US delegation members participating in the Gore/Cherno talks. This has been arranged.

- At end of meeting, DOE was charged with drafting a paper for having a package of financial options to discuss with Russia, and DOS was asked to do a paper on how to presents the various options and the pros/cons of each. Main issue seems to be that various oil companies or consortiums have approved various US Dept./Agencies to get an "inside track" and the OVP wants to bring order to this for the Gore/Cherno talks. OIA is the point of contact to provide agency comments on the draft.